

Please re-write the claims as follows:

55. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising:

a conjugate of a nonextracellular matrix protein, nonlabeling agent and a carboxamide-carrying linking molecule,

wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a sunscreen agent, a cosmetic, an enzyme, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a member of a ligand/receptor pair, a tissue sealant, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, an insect repellent and a component of a high affinity noncovalent coupling pair;

wherein the linking molecule is not native to the agent, and

wherein the linking molecule comprises at least two contiguous linked glutamines, and is a substrate of transglutaminase.

56. (Amended) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises a polymer of amino acids containing at least 20% glutamines.

66. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising:

a conjugate of a nonextracellular matrix protein, nonlabeling agent and a polymer,

wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a sunscreen agent, a cosmetic, an enzyme, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a member of a ligand/receptor pair, a tissue sealant, an insect repellent and a component of a high affinity noncovalent coupling pair, and

wherein the polymer comprises at least 3 contiguous lysines attached to one another by peptide bonds, and is a substrate of transglutaminase.

67. (Amended) The composition of claim 66, wherein the polymer comprises amino acids, and wherein at least 20% of the amino acids are lysines.

57. (Amended) The composition of claim 55, wherein the component of a high affinity noncovalent binding pair is selected from the group consisting of a ligand of a ligand-receptor complex, and a receptor of a ligand-receptor complex.

78. (Amended) The composition of claim 53, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a cholinesterase and a phosphodiesterase.

<sup>7</sup>79. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~55~~<sup>5</sup>, wherein the agent is conjugated to the linking molecule by a bond that is hydrolyzable under physiological conditions.

<sup>6</sup>80. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~55~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the agent is a pharmaceutical agent and the agent is conjugated to the linking molecule by a bond that is hydrolyzable under physiological conditions.

<sup>27</sup>82. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~55~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is not itself a substrate of transglutaminase.

<sup>27</sup>83. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~66~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is conjugated to the linking molecule by a bond that is hydrolyzable under physiological conditions.

<sup>25</sup>84. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~66~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is a nonprotein.

85. (Amended) The composition of claim ~~66~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is not itself a substrate of transglutaminase.

<sup>27</sup>91. (Amended) A kit comprising  
a package housing:  
a first container containing the composition of claim 81, and  
a second container containing transglutaminase.

<sup>27</sup>94. (Amended) A kit comprising  
a package housing:  
a first container containing the composition of claim ~~84~~<sup>25</sup>, and  
a second container containing transglutaminase.

<sup>27</sup>97. (Amended) A kit comprising  
a package housing:  
a first container containing the composition of claim ~~102~~<sup>25</sup>, and  
a second container containing transglutaminase.

Please add new claims 99-112 as follows:

<sup>27</sup>99. (New) The composition of claim ~~55~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is an enzyme.

<sup>27</sup>100. (New) The composition of claim ~~66~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the agent is an enzyme.

sub 3  
101. (New) The composition of claim 100, wherein the enzyme is selected from the group consisting of a cholinesterase and a phosphodiesterase.

102. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the conjugate is in or on a microparticle.

SWD 13  
103. (New) The composition of claim 66, wherein the conjugate is in or on a microparticle.

104. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises at least three contiguous linked glutamines.

105. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises at least four contiguous linked glutamines.

106. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises at least five contiguous linked glutamines.

107. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises a polymer of amino acids containing at least 30% glutamines.

C13  
108. (New) The composition of claim 55, wherein the linking molecule comprises a polymer of amino acids containing at least 40% glutamines.

109. (New) The composition of claim 66, wherein the polymer comprises at least 4 contiguous lysines attached to one another by peptide bonds.

110. (New) The composition of claim 66, wherein the polymer comprises at least 5 contiguous lysines attached to one another by peptide bonds.

111. (New) The composition of claim 66, wherein the polymer comprises amino acids, and wherein at least 30% of the amino acids are lysines.

112. (New) The composition of claim 66, wherein the polymer comprises amino acids, and wherein at least 40% of the amino acids are lysines.

88 Remarks